

## Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 RSC-01 RSR-01 /039 W

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R 271730Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8272

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 4315

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: BFOL, BE

SUBJECT: PETROLEUM REFINERY PROJECTS

REF.: STATE A-4458

FOR COMMERCE

FOLLOWING ARE UPCOMING REFINERY PROJECTS IN BELGIUM:

IBRAMCO S.A.

1. PROPOSED JOINT PROJECT BETWEEN IRANIAN NATIONAL OIL COMPANY AND BELGIAN GOVERNMENT. ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY STUDY CURRENTLY UNDERWAY; FINAL GOB APPROVAL PENDING.

2. SEE BRUSSELS 2580 AND PREVIOUS.  
S.A. TEXACO-BELGIUM N.V. (TWO PROJECTS)

A. REFINERY EXPANSION

1. PROJECT CURRENTLY IN ENGINEERING STUDY STAGE. BECHTEL CORPORATION ARE CONSULTING ENGINEERS. CONSTRUCTION TENDER EXPECTED WITHIN NEXT FEW MONTHS.

2. APPROXIMATELY COST U.S. DOLS 15 MILLION TO EXPAND PRESENT REFINERY FROM CURRENT 8 MILLION TONS PER YEAR TO 9/10 MILLION TONS.

3. FINANCING ARRANGED LOCALLY BY TEXACO-BELGIUM.

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4. KEY CONTACT IS BECHTEL.

B. OCTANE IMPROVER/FUEL DESULPHURIZATION PROJECT

1. PLANNING STAGE: INTEREST SUBSIDY ARRANGED WITH GOB;  
ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS UNDER STUDY. PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY COMPLETED  
BUT FINAL DECISION PENDING. PROJECT IS PART OF TEXACO'S  
EUROPEAN STRATEGIC PROGRAM AND COULD BE LOCATED IN GERMANY OR  
ENGLAND AS EASILY. DECISION WILL BE MADE IN NEW YORK.

2. COST WILL BE US.DOLS 70-DOLS 80 MILLION.

BELGIAN SHELL

1. REFINERY PROJECT IN ANTWERP AREA IN EARLY PLANNING STAGE.  
PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY COMPLETE BUT ENGINEERING STUDY CONTRACT NOT  
YET AWARDED. PROJECT IS PART OF SHELL'S STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR  
NORTH-WEST EUROPE AND DECISION TO BE MADE BEFORE END 1973.

2. PROJECT WILL BE FOR 10 MILLION TONS PER YEAR PRODUCTION  
CAPACITY, OF WHICH 40 PERCENT WILL BE FOR EXPORT.

3. CONTACT OFFICE IS SHELL HEADQUARTERS IN THE HAGUE.  
BOOCHEVER

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## Message Attributes

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